BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 96-020-C - ORDER NO. 96-120 ✔

FEBRUARY 22, 1996

IN RE: Staff Petition for a Rule to Show Cause Against London Communications, Inc.

ORDER DISMISSING RULE TO SHOW

CAUSE

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the January 30, 1996 letter of London Communications, Inc. (London or the Company).

On January 18, 1996, this Commission issued an Order granting a Staff Petition to ask that London appear before this Commission at such time as Staff may designate to show cause why its Customer Owned Coin Operated Telephone (COCOT) authority should not be revoked, based on violations of the Commission's COCOT guidelines. Staff petitioned this Commission and requested the rule, since compliance audits revealed that a number of COCOTs located in areas qualifying for 10¢ charges which we owned by the Company, appeared to be charging 25¢. Since that time, London has written, and stated its intention to set straight any phones in South Carolina that are in violation of Commission Regulations. London states in its letter that it sometimes will install a payphone with the wrong top card, or mistakenly insert a replacement card in a payphone reflecting the wrong rate. London states in its

letter that it does not knowingly break the rules, and that all phones in 10¢ areas will be inspected to be sure that they have top cards reflecting the proper local rate of 10¢. Further, the letter promises to work with the Commission in the future on resolving any problems and infractions of the Commission's COCOT guidelines.

The Commission has examined this matter, and believes that the Rule to Show Cause granted in Order No. 96-51 should be dismissed, based on London's assurances that their pay telephones will reflect the proper message rate with proper top cards. Staff shall continue to monitor this problem, and inform the Commission of any future infractions.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Rudoys Mittell
Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)